

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An assembly for effecting the condition of a mitral valve annulus of a heart comprising:

a guide wire configured to be advanced to the coronary sinus of the heart; and

a resilient mitral valve annulus device configured to be deformed and received on the guide wire and advanced into the coronary sinus of the heart on the guide wire and that reshapes the mitral valve annulus when in the coronary sinus of the heart, wherein the mitral valve annulus device is further configured to change from a deformed first shape toward an unstressed a second shape having ~~an arched configuration~~ a curvature adapted to reshape the mitral valve annulus when in the coronary sinus of the heart, and wherein the coronary sinus has a radius natural curvature, the unstressed curvature of the second shape ~~having a radius smaller~~ being different than the radius natural curvature of the coronary sinus such that the mitral valve annulus device presses a portion of the coronary sinus against the mitral valve annulus to reshape the mitral valve annulus.

2-7 (Cancelled)

8. (Original) The assembly of claim 1 wherein the guide wire is formed of a material visible under X ray.

9-10 (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1 further including an elongated introducer configured to be received on the guide wire.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Original) The assembly of claim 11 wherein the assembly further includes a releasable locking mechanism configured to releasably lock the device to the introducer.

14. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 11 further including a guide tube having an inner lumen dimensioned for receiving the device and introducer when the device and introducer are received on the guide wire.

15. (Withdrawn) A method of deploying a mitral valve annulus constricting device within the coronary sinus of a heart, the method comprising:

advancing an elongated guide wire to the coronary sinus of the heart;

advancing a guide tube having an inner lumen to the coronary sinus of the heart along the guide wire;

placing a mitral valve annulus device within the inner lumen of the guide tube;

placing a flexible elongated introducer within the inner lumen of the guide tube;

engaging the introducer with the device;

advancing the device with the introducer in a distal direction along the guide wire and within the guide tube until the device is at least partially encircling the mitral valve within the coronary sinus of the heart; and

after the advancing step, withdrawing the introducer and the guide tube from the heart.

16. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 15 wherein the engaging step includes releasably locking the device to the introducer.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16 including the further step of releasing the device from the introducer prior to withdrawing the introducer.

18. (Withdrawn) A method of deploying a mitral valve annulus reshaping device within the coronary sinus of a heart, the method comprising:

advancing a guide wire to the coronary sinus of the heart;

advancing an elongated mitral valve annulus reshaping device along the guide wire and into the coronary sinus into a position such that the device at least partially encircles the mitral valve of the heart.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18 wherein the advancing step further includes engaging an elongated flexible introducer with the device, and advancing the device distally into the coronary sinus with the introducer.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 19 including deploying the device in the coronary sinus to cause reshaping of the mitral valve annulus and withdrawing the introducer after deploying the device.

21. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 20 wherein the engaging step includes releasably locking the device to the introducer.

22. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21 including the further step of releasing the device from the introducer after the deploying step and prior to withdrawing the introducer.

23. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 19 including:
providing an elongated flexible guide tube having an inner lumen;
advancing the guide tube to the coronary sinus of the heart along the guide wire; and
placing the device within the guide tube and deploying the device in the coronary sinus to cause reshaping of the mitral valve annulus.

24. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23 wherein the engaging step includes releasably locking the device to the introducer.

25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24 including releasing the device from the introducer and withdrawing the introducer and the guide tube after deploying the device.

26. (Currently Amended) An assembly for effecting the condition of a mitral valve annulus of a heart comprising:

a guide wire configured to be advanced to the coronary sinus of the heart; and
a resilient mitral valve annulus device configured to be deformed and received on the guide wire and advanced into the coronary sinus of the heart on the guide wire and configured to return toward its original shape, the mitral valve annulus device being configured to press a portion of the coronary sinus against the mitral valve annulus with sufficient force to reshape the mitral valve annulus and reduce a gap of a mitral valve in the mitral valve annulus when in the coronary sinus of the heart; and

at least one forming element coupled to the mitral valve annulus device for selectively manipulating a shape of the mitral valve annulus device from a location outside the venous system.

27. (New) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the forming element is configured to alter a curvature of the mitral valve annulus device.

28. (New) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the mitral valve annulus device is configured to be manipulated to an arched configuration when in the coronary sinus of the heart, wherein the coronary sinus has a natural curvature and the arched configuration of the mitral valve annulus device has a curvature different than the natural curvature of the coronary sinus for pressing a portion of the coronary sinus against the mitral valve annulus.